"Environmental impact assessment notification"

3301. SHRI GHUFRAN AZAM: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state the list of the firms which have been granted Environmental Impact Assessement Notification during the last one and a half year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS: (CAPT. JAI NARAYAN PRASAD NISHAD): Perhaps, the Hon'ble member is referring to the number of environmental clearances issued under the provisions of the notification on Environmental impact Assessment of Development projects dated the 27th January 1994. In the last one and a half years (March 1995—August 1996) 231 projects have been granted environmental clearance.

Favourable Trade Regime for Agricultural Sector

3302. PROF. NAUNIHAL SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government's agricultural policy has attempted to correct the earlier policy bias, favouring industry and thus bring about a more favourable trade regime for agricultural products;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government's intervention through an Agricultural Price Policy shifts the terms of trade in favour of agriculture, if so, the details thereof; and

(d) whether a coalition between an industrial bourgeoise and a rural oligrachy influenced the terms of trade in favour of the farm sector through procuring price hikes; if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA): (a) and (b) The draft Agriculture Policy Resolution from 89.9 in 1990-91 to 98.9 in 1994-95.

Minimum Support price in respect of major commodities during the last five years is given in the Statement attached. which was discussed in Parliament in August, 1995, envisages that the Government would endeavour to create a positive trade and investment climate for agriculture at par with industry. One of the objectives of the policy is to develop effective systems and bestow similar benefits on agriculture as exist in industry. However, care would be taken to ensure that agriculturists are not subjected to regulatory and tax collection machinery of the Government. Agriculture Policy is under finalisation keeping in view the suggestions made by members of Parliament and concerned Ministries/Departments of Government of India.

(c) and (d) The Government through its minimum Support Price Schemes has been helping the farmers to obtain adequate returns for farm produce. While fixing the Minimum Support Prices, the cost of production and incentives for farmers are taken into account as also the interests of the consumers. A positive agricultural price policy is being followed in the agricultural sector. This policy alongwith fiscal, monetary and trade policies influences the terms of trade for the agricultural sector. A favourable price climate due to liberalisation of domestic trade in agricultural commodities during the recent years has helped in improving the terms of trade for agriculture. The estimate of terms of trade between Agriculture and Industry shows that these have improved in favour of agriculture

Statement

Procurement/Minimum Support Prices

(According to Crop Year)

(Rs. per quintal)

Sl.	Commodity	Variety	1991-92	1992-93	1993-94	1994-95	1995-96
1.	Paddy	Common	230	270	310	340	360
		Fine	240	280	330	360	375
		Super Fine	250	290	350	350	395
2.	Coarse Cereals (Jowar Bajra & Ragi)		205	240	260	280	300
3.	Maize		210	245	265	290	310
4.	Wheat		275@	330	350	360	380
5.	Barley		210	260	275	285	295
6.	Gram		500	600	640	670	700
7.	Arhar		545	640	700	760	800
8.	Moong		545	640	700	760	800
9.	Urad		545	640	700	760	800
10.	Sugarcane $		26.00	31.00	34.50	39.10	42.50
11.	Cotton	F-414/H-777	695	800	900	1000	1150
		H-4	840	950	1050	1200	1350
12.	Groundnut-in-shell		645	750	800	860	900
13.	Jute	TD-5 Grade	375	400	450	470	490
14.	Rapeseed/Mustard		670	760	810	830	860
15.	Sunflower Seed		670	800	850	900	950
16.	Soyabean	Black	395	475	525	570	600
		Yellow	445	525	580	650	680
17.	Safflower		640	720	760	780	800
18.	Torla		645	725	780	800	825
19.	Tobacco(VFC) (Rs. per kg.)	Black soil (F2 Grade)	14.75	16.00	18.00	18.50	19.00
		Light Soil (L2 Grade)	16.00	17.50	20.00	21.00	21.50
20.	Copra	Milling	1700	Not Announced	2150	2350	2500
	(Calendar Year)	Ball	1840	Not Announced	2350	2575	2775
21.	Sesamum		—	—	—	—	850.00
22.	Nigerseed		—	—	—	—	700.00

$-Statutory Minimum Price for a basic recovery of 8.5 percent

@-Including a Central Bonus of Rs. 25.00 lper quintal.

"Destruction of Cultivable Land in Tamil Nadu"

3303. SHRI R. MARGABANDU: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state the number of acres of cultivable land destroyed by tanners effluents in Tamil Nadu, particularly in North Acrot Ambedkar District?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OR THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (CAPT. JAI NARAYAN PRASAD NISHAD): No conclusive scientific estimates have been